

## FROM FIELD AND STUDY

**Black-throated Butcher-bird near Perth.**—To the list of scanty records of this butcher-bird (*Cracticus nigrogularis*) in the South-West I wish to add a further observation. On November 13, 1955, I saw one bird in the banksia-wattle scrub at Wanneroo Beach. The locality was about 1½ miles inland.

—R. STRANGER, Wembley.

**Inland Record of Mountain Duck.**—Serventy and Whittell (*Handbook*, 1951, p. 186) state that the Mountain Duck (*Tadorna tadornoides*) is "mainly a southern duck but specimens have occasionally been met with as far north as the Tropic of Capricorn (Ophthalmia Range)". On Sept. 23, 1955, Messrs. C. K. Blair, C. D. Gooding and the writer made a trip down the Savory Creek to a point 50 miles east of Mundiwindi. Here on a very large pool were some hundreds of waterfowl mostly Black Duck (*Anas superciliosa*), Grey Teal (*A. gibberifrons*) and Coot (*Fulica atra*). Also present were 14 Mountain Duck and a pair of Black Swans (*Cygnus atratus*) with 8 small cygnets.

—J. H. CALABY, Canberra.

**The Occurrence of Northern Fish and Dragonflies in the Greenough River.**—The Spangled Perch (*Therapon unicolor* Gunther) is a widely distributed fish in tropical and subtropical Australia, occurring "practically everywhere from lat. 30° S. northward to Cape York and westward to at least the upper waters of the Murchison" (Ogilby and McCulloch, *Mem. Queensl. Mus.*, 5, 1916: 99). It is a common and conspicuous species in the Leichhardtian and Greyian freshwater faunas discussed by Whitley (*W.A. Nat.*, 1 (3), 1947: 49) with records extending south to the Murchison River. It is, therefore, of interest to report the collection of four young Spangled Perch on September 22, 1958, at Ellendale Pool, a permanent deep water in the Greenough River approximately 10 miles north-west of Walkaway. The fish, ranging in length between 15-20 mm., were taken among *Chara* in a shallow waterhole at the lower end of the pool, the temperature of which was 21° C. Associated with the perch were a goby, *Lizagobius olorum* (Sauvage) and the exotic *Gambusia affinis* (Baird and Girard).

In addition, larvae of several species of dragonflies were collected. These included: (a) two widespread northern forms hitherto unknown in Western Australia south of the Hamersley Range (*Macrodiplox cora* (Brauer) and *Crocothemis nigrifrons* Kirby); (b) one species of broadly southern distribution, extending to northern Queensland in the east but not known north of Northampton in the west (*Hemicordulia australiae* Rambur), and (c) several Australian-wide species. This apparent mixture of northern and southern faunas in the Greenough River suggests that the area merits full investigation.

The author wishes to thank Mr. Bruce Shipway for checking the identification of the *Therapon*.

—J. A. L. WATSON, Department of Zoology, University of W.A.